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OCT 04 2005

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:	
Holger PUCHTA et al.	:	
Application No. 10/750,891	:	DECISION ON PETITIONS
Filed: January 5, 2004	:	UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3)
Attorney Docket No. 532622003100	:	AND 37 CFR 1.55(c)

This is a decision on the petitions under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) and 37 CFR 1.55(c), filed May 3, 2005, to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and 365(c) for the benefit of prior-filed nonprovisional and PCT applications, and under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) for the benefit of a prior-filed foreign application, as set forth in the concurrently filed amendment and declaration, respectively.

As to the benefit claim under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3):

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) is only applicable to those applications filed on or after November 29, 2000 and after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii). In addition, the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
- (2) the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

All requirements being met, the petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) is **GRANTED**.

As to the benefit claim under 37 CFR 1.55(c):

A petition under 37 CFR 1.55(c) to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority requires:

- (1) The nonprovisional application claiming the benefit of an earlier filing date must be filed on or after November 29, 2000;
- (2) the claim submitted with the petition must identify the prior foreign application for which priority is claimed, as well as any foreign application for the same subject matter and having a filing date before that of the application for which priority is claimed, by the application number, country, and the filing date, **and be included either in an oath or declaration (37 CFR 1.63(c)(2)) or in an Application Data Sheet (37 CFR 1.76(b)(6))**;
- (3) the surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(t);
- (4) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.55(a)(1) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. (The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.); and
- (5) the above-identified nonprovisional application must be filed within 12 months of the filing date of the foreign application.

All requirements being met, the petition under 37 CFR 1.55(c) to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) is **GRANTED**.

The granting of the petition to accept the delayed benefit claim to the prior-filed applications under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) and 37 CFR 1.55(c) should not be construed as meaning that this application is entitled to the benefit of the prior-filed applications. In order for this application to be entitled to the benefit of the prior-filed applications, all other requirements under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and 365(c) and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(1) and (a)(2) and 35 § U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) and 37 CFR 1.55(a)(1) must be met. Similarly, the fact that the corrected Filing Receipt accompanying this decision on petition includes the prior-filed applications should not be construed as meaning that applicant is entitled to the claim for benefit of priority to the prior-filed applications noted thereon. Accordingly, the examiner will, in due course, consider this benefit claim and determine whether this application is entitled to the benefit of the earlier filing date.

A corrected Filing Receipt, which includes the priority claim to the prior-filed applications, and the foreign priority claim, accompanies this decision on petition.

Any inquiries concerning this decision may be directed to David Bucci at (571) 272-7099. All other inquiries concerning either the examination procedures or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.

This application is being to Technology Center Art Unit 1638 for consideration by the examiner of applicant's entitlement to claim benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120, 365(c) and 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) of the prior-filed applications.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Hearn", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian Hearn
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

ATTACHMENT: Corrected Filing Receipt